

In the Matter of: erate

Schools and Libraries Universal Service)	CC Docket No. 02-06
Support Mechanism)	
)	
Comments on Notice of Proposed Rule Making)	

Please consider elimination of the erate program as it now exists. The cost of administering this monster staggers the imagination. It must be administered by venders, and by end users, and overseen by the government. The main purpose of this program must surely be to provide jobs for bureaucrats and their support staff. The same goals could be accomplished by collecting the subsidies from the telecommunications companies and dividing them among all eligible recipients in the country using some type of formula based on community income, population or whatever. This could be done with vastly less bureaucracy and a much-reduced SLC. All eligible recipients could receive a yearly "erate" present from the telco companies once per year, with the stipulation that it must be spent on technology. The money could come with a list of approved purchases. In fact, I would wager that this would be a more effective way to get technology into schools and libraries. It certainly would reduce the cost of administration on all fronts.

Respectfully submitted,

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